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**REGISTERED PATENT AGENT

FACSIMILE COVER PAGE

DATE: May 27, 2003
TO: Examiner Saldano
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FROM: Linda Fox, Attorney for the applicant
RE: Serial No. 10/072,149 ; D-2978

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*Proposed
amended
claims*

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) An erosion control system comprising:

~~a flexible matting having an upper surface and a lower surface structured to be secured to or placed on a sloped, substantially unvegetated surface, the matting including~~

~~core layer formed of a fiber matrix comprising randomly oriented fibers, the fiber matrix forming a substantially flat upper surface and a substantially flat lower surface; and~~

~~an upper layer bonded to the substantially flat upper surface of the core layer;~~

~~the flexible matting being structured to control erosion of a substantially unvegetated sloped surface when the matting is placed on such an unvegetated sloped surface the upper surface of the matting having a substantially planar surface topography without substantial three dimensional features.~~

*newly
claimed,
requires
further
search*

2. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein the matting has a density of at least about 0.5 pounds per square yard.

3. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein the matting has a density of at least about 0.7 pounds per square yard.

4. (Currently amended) The system of claim 1 wherein the ~~upper surface of the~~ matting has a Mannings "N" value of roughness of less than about 0.044.

5. (Currently amended) The system of claim 1 wherein the ~~upper surface of the~~ matting has a Mannings "N" value of roughness of about 0.026.

6. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein the flexible matting is structured to substantially prevent soil loss from the sloped, unvegetated surface when the surface is exposed to at liquid